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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. Tauscher).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

> WASHINGTON, DC, February 12, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ELLEN O. Tauscher to act as Speaker pro tempore on

> NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Dr. Albert C. Lynch, St. Andrew's United Methodist Church, Richmond, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, as we gather in this hallowed place on the 200th anniversary of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln, we are reminded that in the midst of times of greatest national adversity, You have watched over this Nation and have inspired leaders who have zealously stood for what is just and what is right and what is honorable. On this day, may we be reminded of the leadership that Lincoln gave to this country.

Though virtually uneducated and unqualified in every conventional way to lead, it became his duty to lead our Nation through civil war and to preserve the Union. Like Lincoln, we pray that You would instill within the Members of this House of Representatives the courage to lead our people in this time of economic and international uncertainty, and the resolve to carry out Your will in all they undertake. In Your name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Bu-CHANAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BUCHANAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNIZING PASTOR ALBERT C. LYNCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Virginia CANTOR) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, today I have the distinct honor of inviting for the opening prayer a man for whom I have tremendous respect, Pastor Al Lynch. Pastor Lynch, who is here with his wife Susan and his son Matthew, serves as the St. Andrew's United Methodist Church in Henrico County, Virginia. He has a passion for public service, in particular in the public safety arena, where he has been appointed chaplain of the Henrico County Sheriff's Office. His years of contributions to the greater Richmond region have left a profound imprint on our community, and we are all grateful for his service.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 10 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

SAVING OUR JOBS

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his re-

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, there are still obstructionists who are attempting to obstruct this bold plan to create jobs in this country of President Barack Obama, and you will hear a lot of smoke in the next 24 hours about that. I thought it was helpful to look at some objective assessment of this bill that was performed by Christina Romer, Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers, and Jared Bernstein, an economist in the office of the Vice President. This assessment has shown that this will create or save 3.5 million jobs for Americans in the next 2 years.

All across this country, and in the Second District of Texas it has been shown that 8,800 jobs will be saved. And people have said these are somehow make-work jobs? We on this side of the aisle don't think that teachers are make-work jobs, and their jobs are going to be preserved all across the country with this bill. We don't think firefighters are make-work jobs. We don't think that construction workers are make-work jobs. And 90 percent of these jobs will be in the private sector, Madam Speaker.

These are honest, paycheck-every-Friday jobs that are going to help to save this economy. I hope the obstructionists will realize these are saving jobs today and tomorrow and vote for this bill.

COLONEL SAM JOHNSON, PRISONER OF WAR

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the date: February 12, 1973, 36 years ago this day, when a tall, lean, underfed

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

